

# Drought Information Statement for southeast MS, southwest AL, and the western FL Panhandle

Valid 11/9/2023

Issued By: WFO Mobile/Pensacola

Contact Information: [sr-mob.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-mob.webmaster@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated November 16, 2023 (or sooner) if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at [drought.gov/drought-information-statements](https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements).
- Please visit [weather.gov/mob/DroughtInformationStatement](https://weather.gov/mob/DroughtInformationStatement) for previous statements.



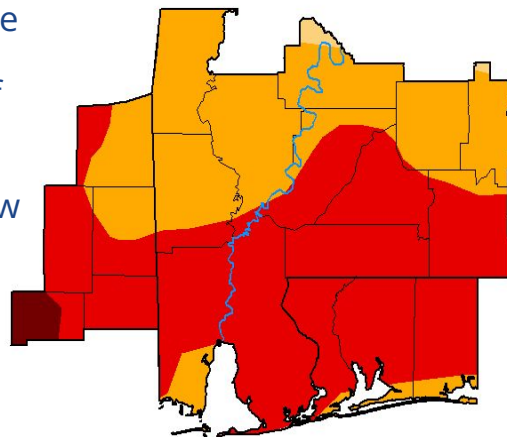


# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for the SE US and central Gulf Coast

- Severe to extreme drought drags on across the central Gulf Coast.
- Drought intensity and Extent
  - D4 (Exceptional Drought):** Western Stone Co. MS.
  - D3 (Extreme Drought):** Lingers over much of the southern half of the local area.
  - D2 (Severe Drought):** Much of the remainder of the Local Area.
  - D1 (Moderate Drought):** A small part of northern Wilcox and extreme northern Crenshaw counties in AL.

## U.S. Drought Monitor Mobile, AL/ Pensacola, FL WFO



November 7, 2023

(Released Thursday, Nov. 9, 2023)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	100.00	99.40	59.55	1.61
Last Week 10-31-2023	0.00	100.00	100.00	82.12	52.12	0.00
3 Months Ago 08-08-2023	86.64	13.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2023	46.95	53.05	17.97	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	0.00	100.00	89.36	74.41	16.63	1.45
One Year Ago 11-08-2022	0.00	100.00	56.83	24.07	0.00	0.00

### Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

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[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)



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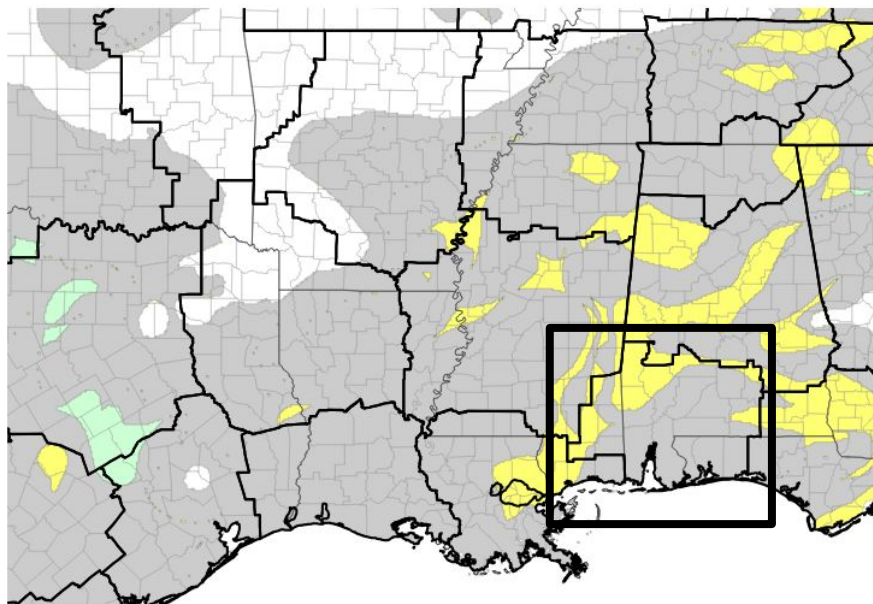


# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

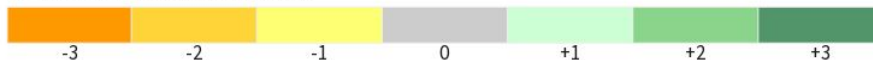
Link to the latest [1-week change map](#) for the SE US and central Gulf Coast

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change:
  - **Drought Worsened:** Over portions of southeast MS, up along and north of U.S. Highway 84.
  - **No Change:** Much of the remainder of the area experienced no change in the drought intensity compared to the past week.

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



Drought Change Since Last Week



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 11/07/23







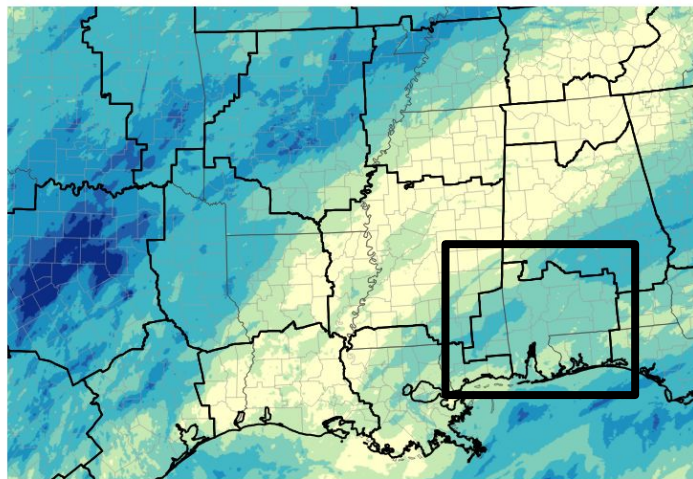
# Precipitation

## Table of Accumulated Rainfall (Inches) from Select Locations - Period: August 1 to November 8, 2023

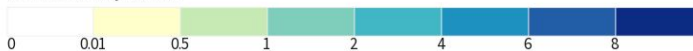
Station	Observed	Normal	Departure
Brewton AL 3NNE (COOP) *	4.38	18.59	-14.21
Fairhope AL 2NE (COOP)	5.89	19.40	-13.51
Pensacola FL (ASOS)	7.49	19.96	-12.47
Atmore AL (COOP)	3.40	15.80	-12.40
Pensacola FL 7NNE (COOP)*	6.69	18.41	-11.72
Niceville FL (COOP)	10.49	22.07	-11.58
Crestview FL (ASOS)	5.40	16.73	-11.33
Mobile AL (ASOS)	6.26	17.39	-11.13
Beaumont MS (COOP)*	3.98	15.09	-11.11
Bay Minette AL (COOP)	8.97	19.42	-10.45
Evergreen AL (ASOS) *	3.90	14.28	-10.38
Dauphin Island AL (COOP)	5.86	15.79	-9.93
Downtown Mobile AL (ASOS)	7.83	16.57	-8.74
Leakesville MS 6WSW (COOP)	6.76	14.90	-8.14
Waynesboro MS 2W (COOP)	6.45	13.15	-6.70

\* Indicates Record Lowest Amount  
Recorded for Period

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



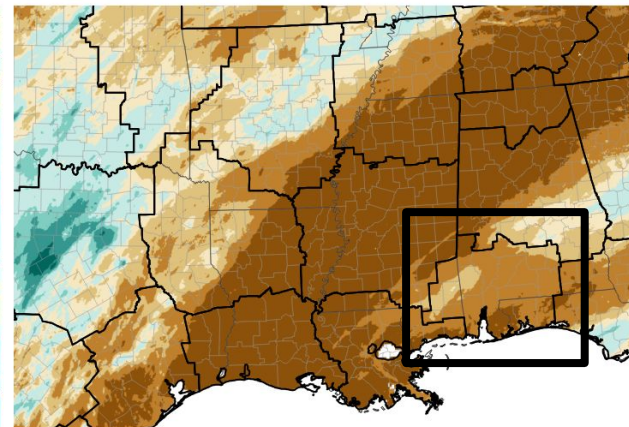
Inches of Precipitation



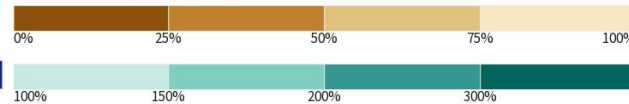
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System;  
image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 11/09/23

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System;  
image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 11/09/23



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# Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Many local streams/rivers remain in low flow and stage at below or much below normal levels. Typically, deeply submerged objects will likely be closer to the water's surface or in some cases exposed presenting a waterway hazard for recreational boating and commercial navigation.

## Agricultural Impacts

- Extreme degree of crop loss to yield potential in the hardest hit areas. Crop disease is elevated along with increased occurrence of insect damage. Reports of winter rye-grass being barely visible and drought stressed. Peanuts and cotton reported to be of lower grade and more difficult to harvest due to lack of rainfall. Livestock stressed as pasture lands provide little to no feed with reports in some areas of 50% hay reduction and 25 to 50% reduction in quality. Increased farmer expense for supplemental feeding initiatives to maintain livestock condition.

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- The risk of significant wildfire remains above normal over southeast Mississippi and the entire state of Alabama.

## Societal Impacts

- Increase in air-borne allergens likely to create problems for respiratory sensitive groups.

## Mitigation Actions

- Water conservation techniques are strongly encouraged in drought areas. Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information. Local water restriction ordinances may be in place.





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

Select River/Stream Points at Below Normal Levels - Valid 8 AM November 9, 2023

River/Stream Point	Discharge(cfs)	Stage(ft)	%Class, Rating
Cyprus Creek at Janice MS	9	5.69	8, Much Below Normal
Red Creek at Vestry MS	131	4.07	4, Much Below Normal
Big Creek at Co. Rd 63 near Wilmer AL	15	1.59	7, Much Below Normal
Chickasaw Creek near Kushla AL	43	2.73	4, Much Below Normal
Styx River near Elsanor AL	116	1.59	10, Much Below Normal
Pine Barren Creek near Snow Hill AL	33	2.34	14, Below Normal
Alabama River at Claiborne L&D	5240	34.90	10, Much Below Normal
Escambia River near Century FL	868	2.92	6, Much Below Normal
Eleven Mile Creek near West Pensacola FL	22	4.72	3, Much Below Normal
Big ColdWater Creek Near Milton FL	247	2.20	16, Below Normal
Shoal River near Crestview FL	259	2.13	1, Low
Yellow River at Milligan FL	204	0.54	4, Much Below Normal

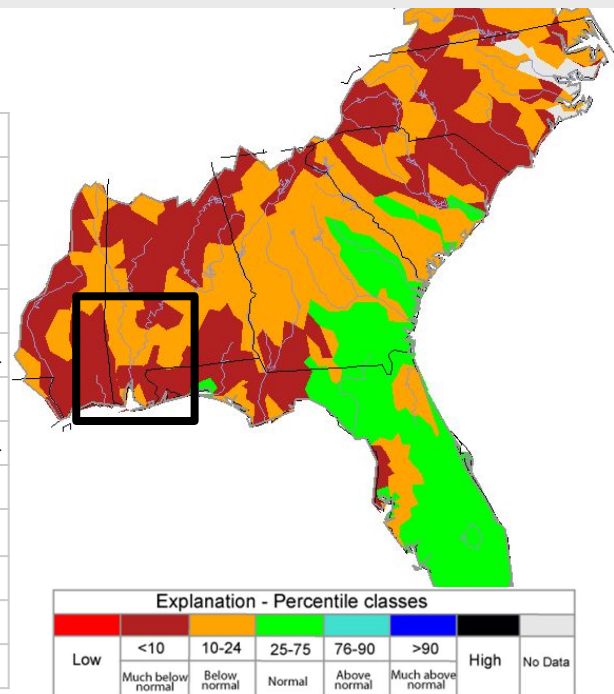


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 11/9/2023. Box Inset - Below to much below normal stream/river flow persists over much of the central Gulf Coast.

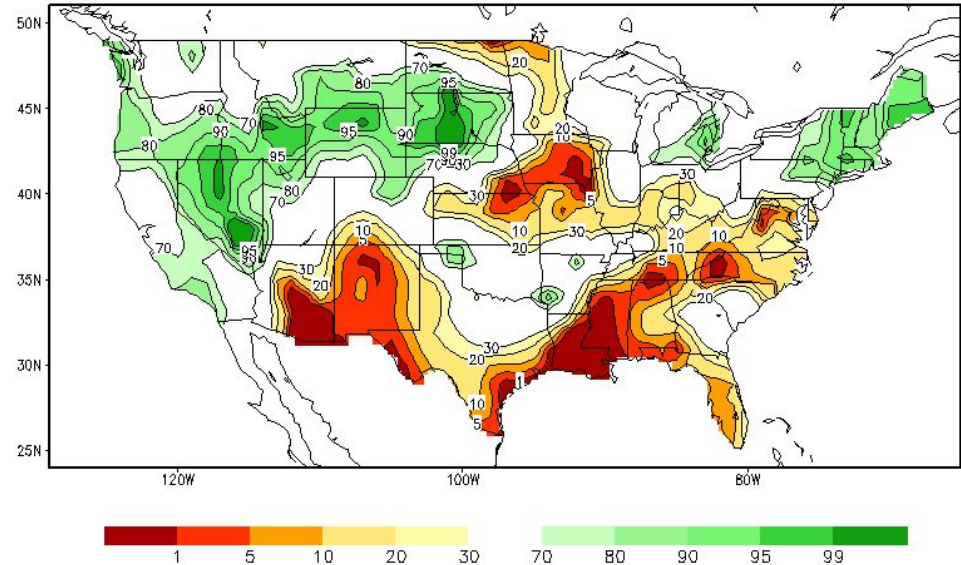




# Agricultural Impacts

- Winter crop grade is poor to very poor in the hardest hit drought areas. Crop disease, insect damage to fields, and livestock stress is elevated. Livestock condition stressed. It is recommended that farmers reach out to local USDA office for details on available funding assistance.
- The latest topsoil moisture content short to very short metrics vs 10-year means (Depth 6", courtesy of USDA 11/5/23):
  - MS: 83% Dry (Avg: 26%)
  - AL: 90% Dry (Avg: 32%)
  - FL: 48% Dry (Avg: 26%)

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile  
NOV 08, 2023



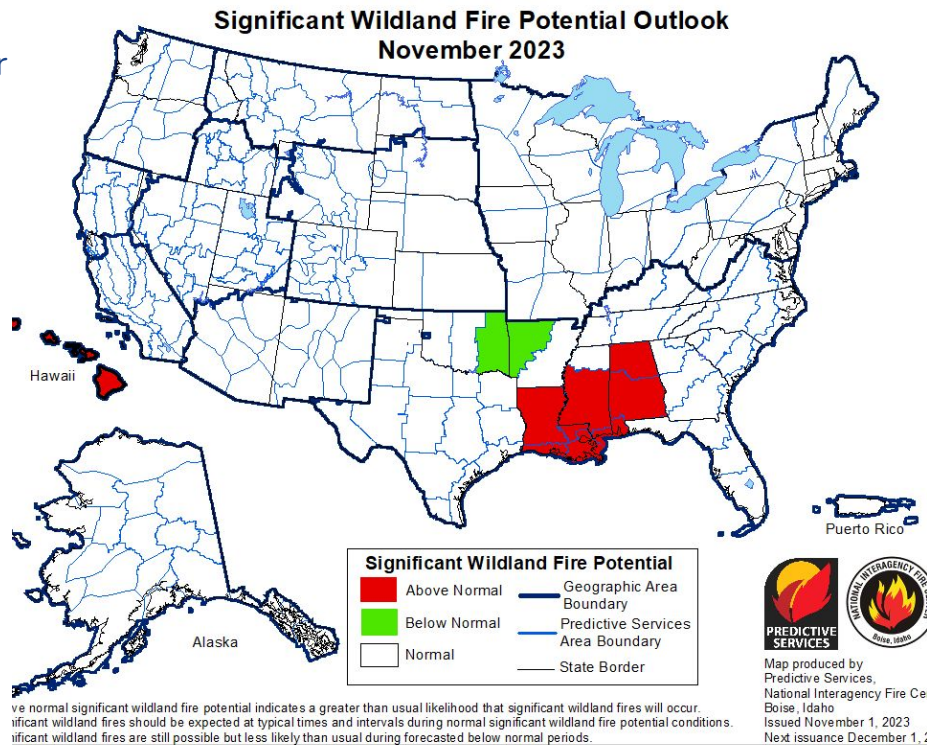




# Fire Hazard Impacts

Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center.](#)

- Decayed timber and very dry underbrush in area forests along with dry grasslands pose an above normal risk for significant wildfire potential over the central and southern part of the state of Mississippi and all of Alabama. In the event of strong cold frontal passages, periods of critically low daytime humidity in combination gusty northerly winds will only exacerbate the wildfire potential.
- Local park campers are strongly urged to follow park instructions on campfires. If allowed, keep camp fires contained in enclosed screens if available and ensure fires are completely put out before going to bed.
- To view the seven day significant fire potential maps, please refer to the link above.



**Latest Burn Bans and/or Advisories By State:**  
[Mississippi](#) and [Alabama](#) and [Florida](#)



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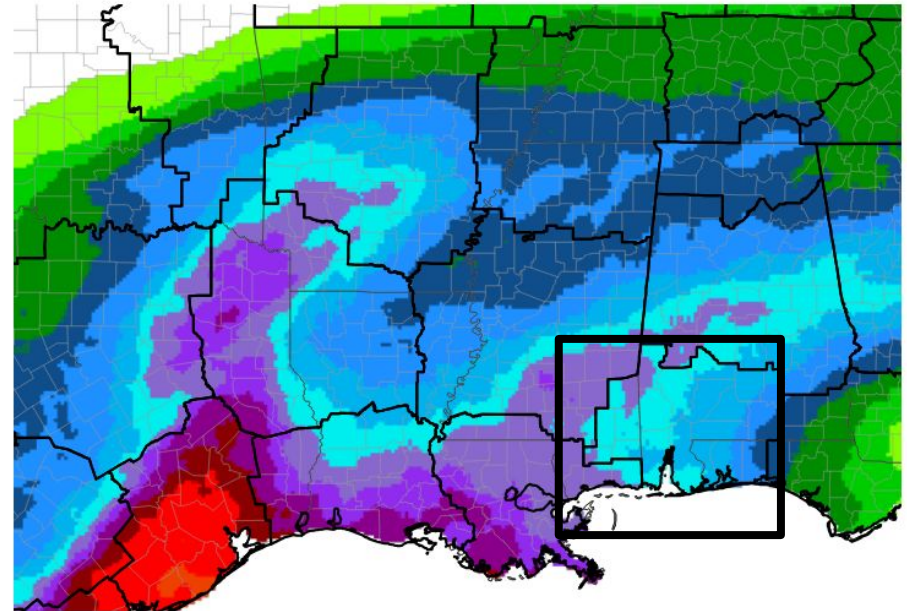
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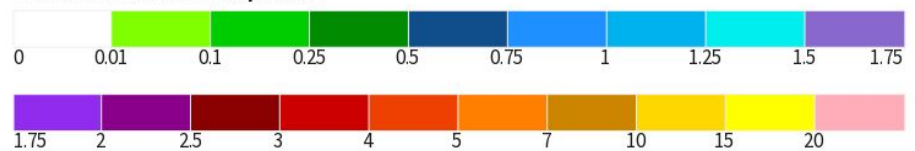


# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- The shorter term outlook shows some much needed and beneficial rainfall.
- Through November 16th, a half to one inch of rain is outlooked generally west of the Interstate 65 corridor and less than a half inch east of the interstate.



Predicted Inches of Precipitation

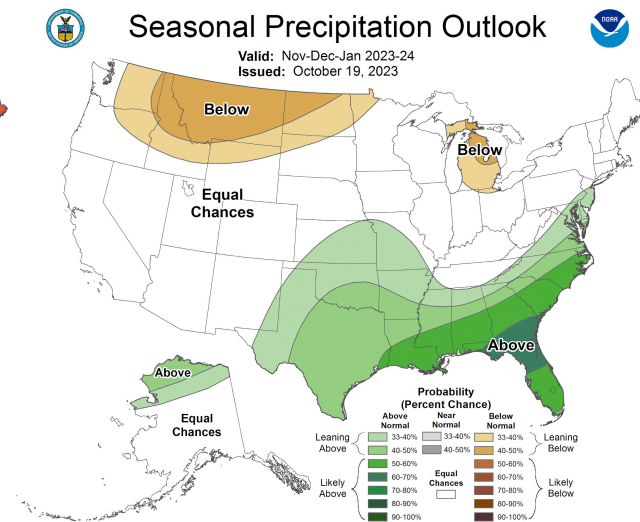
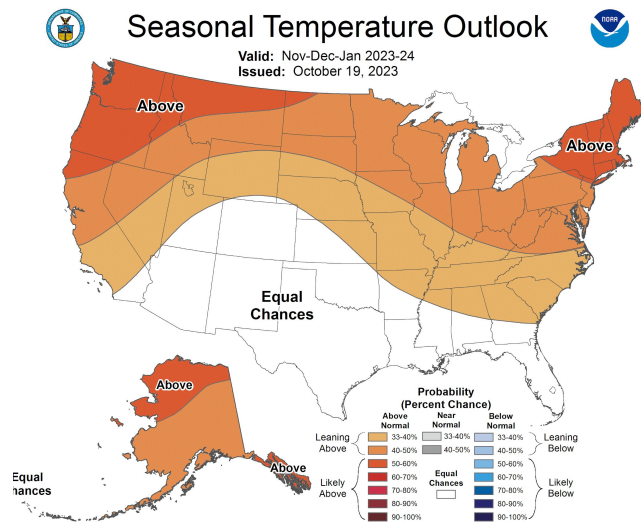




# Long-Range Outlooks

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Equal chances of above or below normal temperatures are favored from Nov-Dec-Jan 2023-24.
- The seasonal outlook for precipitation over the same period leans above normal from the deep south to the southeast U.S.



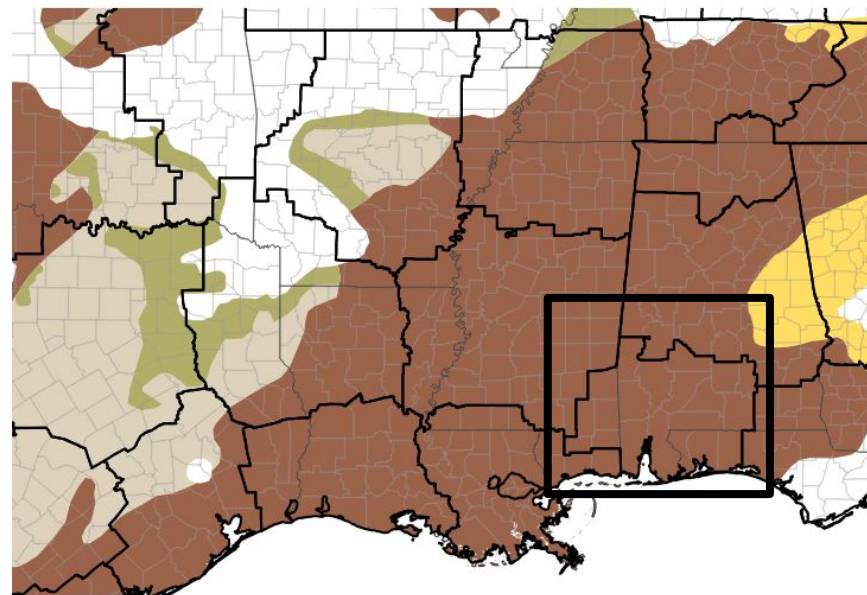


# Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Drought is favored to persist over the entirety of the local area through the month of November.
- Indications in the longer term outlook, closing out 2023 and entering the beginning of 2024, reflects an improvement or perhaps an end to drought.

## 1-Month Drought Outlook



Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 10/31/23

## Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



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